

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANTIA 03516 080106Z

73

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 INT-08

AID-20 NIC-01 RSR-01 /138 W
----- 030222

P R 072232Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5128

INFO USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 3516

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: CI ELAB

SUBJ: TRANSPORT STRIKE CONTINUES

REF: SANTIAGO 3493

1. SUMMARY. TRUCKER'S STRIKE ENTERED 14TH DAY AUG 7 WITH CONTINUED STRIKE SUPPORT FROM CONSIDERABLE NUMBER MUNICIPAL BUSES AND TAXIS. MAY INDICATIONS AND RUMORS OTHER GROUPS MAY JOIN STRIKE. FOUR TENIENTE MINE UNIONS STAGING 24-HOUR SIT-DOWN STRIKE AUG 7 IN ATTEMPT FORCE RETURN OF MINERS DISMISSED DURING BIG MAY-THROUGH-JULY STRIKE. SHORTAGES CAUSED BY STRIKE GROWING BUT NOT CRITICAL AS YET. END SUMMARY.

2. TRUCKERS ENDING SECOND WEEK OF NATIONWIDE STRIKE WITH LITTLE CHANGE IN SITUATION. SPOTTY ACTS OF VIOLENCE CONTINUE TO APPEAR IN PRESS, BUT GOC REQUISITION OF VEHICLES SEEMS TO BE LEVELING OFF. PRESS REPORTS MERCHANTS FEDERATIONS IN SIX PROVINCES HAVE WARNED THEY WILL STRIKE IF REQUISITIONS CONTINUE. THERE ARE ALSO MANY RUMORS THAT SHOP OWNERS AND COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISES MAY SOON JOIN EFFORT. PRES LARGE CONFED RETAIL CLERKS (CON-
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SANTIA 03516 080106Z

FEDERACION DE EMPLEADOS DE INDUSTRIA Y COMERCIO - CEIC) TOLD

LABATT HIS ORGANIZATION WOULD ISSUE STRIKE CALL TO MEMBERS BY END OF WEEK IF TRUCK STRIKE NOT SETTLED. HE INDICATED EFFORT IS TO BE COORDINATED WITH MERCHANTS CONFEDERATION (CONFED DE COMERCIO DETALLISTA Y DE LA PEQUENA INDUSTRIA) OF RAFAEL COMSILLE.

3. CEIC LEADER'S CLAIM IS SIGNIFICANT IN THAT IT IS ONE OF FIRST SURFACING INDICATIONS OF WORKER SYMPATHY WITH TRUCK OWNERS' STRIKE. OTHER BLUE-COLLAR SUPPORT HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED IN STATEMENTS OF TWO WAGE-EARNING DRIVERS UNIONS. THE NATIONAL UNION OF INTERPROVINCIAL BUS DRIVERS ISSUED STATEMENT AUG 6 WHICH STRONGLY CONDEMNED ACTIONS OF UNDER SEC TRANSPORT FAIVOVICH AND EXPRESSED SYMPATHY FOR STRIKE AND FOR OWNERS' PLIGHT IN OBTAINING VEHICLES AND PARTS. MORE SIGNIFICANTLY, NATIONAL CONFED OF TRANSPORT WORKERS (CONFED UNICA DE TRABAJADORES DE TRANSPORTE), A LARGE ORGANIZATION OF DRIVERS OF URBAN BUSES, ISSUED SIMILAR STATEMENT OF SUPPORT AUG 5. BOTH GROUPS ARE UNDOUBTEDLY GETTING THEIR POUND OF FAIVOVICH'S AND HIS PREDECESSOR'S (MORALES) FLESH FOR SHODDY TREATMENT THEY RECEIVED IN THEIR OWN RECENT CONTROVERSIES. IN CONTRAST, THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE OF ORGANIZED LABOR BACKING IN THE OCTOBER 72 STOPPAGE. PDC'S LA PRENSA ESTIMATES 50 PERCENT OF SANTIAGO BUSES OPERATING.

4. THERE ARE MANY RUMORS BUT LITTLE EVIDENCE THAT SOME OF THE PROFESSIONS MIGHT JOIN THE EFFORT, AS WAS THE CASE IN OCTOBER 1972. CEIC INCLUDES ABOUT 10,000 PROFESSIONAL SUPERVISORS AND ENGINEERS (INCLUDING THOSE OF THE COPPER MINES). THERE ARE SOME REPORTS THAT THE MEDICAL DOCTORS ASSOCIATION (FEDERACION MEDICA DE CHILE -- FEMECH) ARE TRUCKERS' BEST HOPE FOR SUPPORT AMONG THE PROFESSIONS. FEMECH HELD A MEETING OF NATIONAL LEADERSHIP PAST WEEKEND BUT MADE NO PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF PLANS FOR STRIKE SUPPORT.

5. CUT VICE PRES ERNESTO VOGEL (TOP PDC LEADER IN CUT) TOLD LABATT THAT PDC UNIONISTS (DEPTO. SINDICAL) MEETING AFTERNOON AUG 7 TO "DISCUSS TRUCKERS' STRIKE" AND THAT ODDS ARE THEY WILL ISSUE "MILD STATEMENT OF MORAL SUPPORT FOR STRIKE." HE ALSO INDICATED THERE IS MUCH PRESSURE GENERATING WITHIN PARTY FOR GENERAL PARTY ENDORSEMENT OF STRIKE.

6. APPARENTLY UNCONNECTED WITH TRUCKERS' STRIKE IS 24-HOUR SIT-CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SANTIAGO 03516 080106Z

DOWN STRIKE (BRAZOS CAIDOS) OF FOUR UNIONS OF TENIENTE MINE "EMPLEADOS" WHICH COMMENCED MORNING AUG 7. STRIKE IS ATTEMPT TO PRESSURE MANAGEMENT TO RETURN 97 WORKERS, FIRED DURING RECENT STRIKE, TO THEIR JOBS. THREE-MAN TRIBUNAL CREATED IN SETTLEMENT RECENTLY RULED (TWO OUT OF THREE INCLUDING MININTERIOR BRIONES) THAT ALL SHOULD BE RETURNED BUT MINE MANAGEMENT HAS REFUSED TO COMPLY WITH DECISION. LEADER OF ONE TENIENTE UNION REPORTED THAT 95 PERCENT MEMBERS OF FOUR UNIONS (ABOUT HALF OF TOTAL WORK

FORCE) ARE HONORING STRIKE BUT THAT NONE OF FOUR "OBRERO" UNIONS
ARE PARTICIPATING.
DAVIS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SANTIA03516
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS DAVIS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SANTIAGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730853/aaaabmvl.tel
Line Count: 118
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 SANTIAGO 3493
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16-Jan-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <11 FEB 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRANSPORT STRIKE CONTINUES
TAGS: ELAB, CI
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005